

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A ware washing process including the steps of:
 - (i) washing wares in the form of items which are used in the preparation and consumption of food and drink in a washing cavity of a ware washer with water and a ware washing detergent;
 - (ii) rinsing the ware in the ware washer with water; and
 - (iii) introducing a biocide into the washing cavity of the ware washer in order to provide a gaseous atmosphere thereof in the washing cavity, the biocide being introduced into the washing cavity prior to or contemporaneously with or subsequently to the washing or rinsing of the ware, and wherein the biocide is introduced in gaseous phase into the washing cavity independently of the water.
2. (Previously Presented) The ware washing process of claim 1, wherein the biocide is introduced into the cavity at a cavity temperature of between 15°C to 25°C.
3. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the biocide is introduced into the washing cavity at a pH of between 2 and 12.
4. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the biocide is introduced at a pH of between 4 and 6 during a pre-rinse step carried out before the washing step of step (i).
5. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein water used in the ware washing process and exposed to the biocide is recycled.

6. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein the biocide is ozone.

7. (Previously Presented) The ware washing process of claim 6, wherein the ozone is generated by means of an ozone generator having an ozone outlet in fluid flow communication with the washing cavity of the ware washer.

8. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein the water is at a temperature of below 35°C.

9. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein the ware washing detergent includes an inorganic alkali, a complexing agent and at least one surfactant.

10. (Previously Presented) The ware washing process of claim 9, wherein the ware washing detergent comprises:

Component	% composition (by mass)
EDTA	4.00
NTA	7.00
Caustic soda lye	40.05
Water (softened)	46.70886
Triton BG-10	0.06615
Triton CF-32	0.08976
Bayhibit™AM or Belclene®650	0.01963
Water (softened)	2.0656

11. (Currently Amended) The ware washing process of ~~any one of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~ claim 1, wherein a rinse aid composition is used during rinsing, the rinse aid composition comprising at least one alkoxylated alcohol; and an acid.

12. (Previously Presented) The ware washing process of claim 11, wherein the rinse aid composition comprises:

Component	% composition (by mass)
Propyl alcohol	40.00
Citric Acid	0.10
Water (softened)	49.40
Synperonic TM LF/RA30	5.50
Synperonic TM LF/RA260	5.00

13. (Currently Amended) Use of a biocide in a ware washing process for washing wares used in the preparation and consumption of food and drink, the biocide being introduced into a washing cavity of a ware washer in gaseous phase, independently of water so as to provide a gaseous atmosphere thereof in the washing cavity.

14. (Previously Presented) The use of claim 13, wherein the biocide is ozone.

15. (Currently Amended) A ware washer (~~10~~), connectable to a source of water, the ware washer including a washing cavity (~~25~~), wherein ware (~~32~~) in the form of items which are used in the preparation and consumption of food and drink may be loaded therein, a water inlet (~~35~~) for introducing water into the washing cavity (~~25~~) and at least one inlet (~~45~~) for introducing detergent or rinse aid into the washing cavity, the ware washer being characterised in that it includes introduction means for introducing biocide into the washing cavity in gaseous phase and independently of water so as to provide a gaseous atmosphere thereof in the washing cavity.

16. (Currently Amended) The ware washer of claim 15, wherein the biocide is ozone and the introduction means includes an ozone generator (~~15~~) having an ozone outlet (~~20~~) in fluid flow communication with the washing cavity (~~25~~) of the ware washer (~~10~~).